

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An online shopping apparatus comprising:

a communication circuit that communicates with a user's terminal and a terminal of an online shopping dealer, said user's terminal storing unrewritable identification information for identifying the user's terminal
5 itself, said user's terminal reading out said identification information, and sending said identification information and article information representing an article selected for purchase to said online shopping apparatus when a user enters said article information;

10 a storage circuit that stores in advance said identification information, and stores in advance data indicative of a name of the user and data indicative of a destination designated by said user both corresponding to said identification information;

15 a receiving circuit connected to said communication circuit that receives said article information and said identification information from said user's terminal;

a retrieving circuit connected to said receiving circuit and said storage circuit that retrieves said stored data corresponding to said received identification information;

20 a producing circuit connected to said retrieving circuit that produces the user's information for specifying said user's name and said designation based on said retrieved data; and

a sending circuit connected to said communication circuit and said producing circuit that sends said article information and said produced user's information to the terminal of said online shopping dealer.

2. The online shopping apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a computing circuit that obtains a charge of communication to said user's terminal;

5 a price storing circuit that stores data representing prices of said articles corresponding to the articles; and

10 a calculating circuit connected to said computing circuit and said price storing circuit that adds the price of the article selected by said user to said communication charge, and calculates a sum of money charged to said user.

3. The online shopping apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

5 a confirmation receiving circuit connected to said communication circuit that receives order confirmation information from the terminal of said online shopping dealer; and

a confirmation sending circuit connected to said communication circuit that sends said order confirmation information to said user's terminal.

4. The online shopping apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

5 a shipping agent communication circuit that communicates with a terminal of a shipping agent delivering the article to the user, said user information being information for specifying said retrieved user's name and destination, and expressing said user's name and destination in the form unrecognizable by said online shopping dealer and said shipping agent,

10 said terminal of the online shopping dealer sending said article information and said user information to said terminal of the shipping agent, said terminal of the shipping agent sending user inquiry information including said user information to said online shopping apparatus for inquiring said retrieved user's name and destination; and

15 a user information sending circuit connected to said shipping agent communication circuit that sends the data indicating the name of the user and specified by said user information as well as the data indicating the destination and specified by said user information to said terminal of the shipping agent in response to the reception of said user inquiry information.

5. The online shopping apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

a schedule receiving circuit connected to said shipping agent communication circuit that receives delivery schedule information from
5 said terminal of the shipping agent; and

a schedule sending circuit connected to said communication circuit that sends said delivery schedule information to said user's terminal.

6. An online shopping apparatus comprising:

communication means for communicating with a user's terminal and a terminal of an online shopping dealer, said user's terminal storing unrewritable identification information for identifying the user's terminal
5 itself, said user's terminal reading out said identification information, and sending said identification information and article information representing an article selected for purchase to said online shopping apparatus when a user enters said article information;

storage means for storing in advance said identification information
10 and storing in advance data indicative of a name of the user and data indicative of a destination designated by said user both corresponding to said identification information;

receiving means connected to said communication means for receiving said article information and said identification information from
15 said user's terminal;

retrieving means connected to said receiving means and said storage means for retrieving said stored data corresponding to said received identification information;

producing means connected to said retrieving means for producing
20 the user's information for specifying said user's name and said designation based on said retrieved data; and

sending means connected to said communication means and said producing means for sending said article information and said produced user's information to the terminal of said online shopping dealer.

7. The online shopping apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:

computing means for obtaining a charge of communication to said user's terminal;

5 price storing means for storing data representing prices of said articles corresponding to the articles; and

calculating means connected to said computing means and said price storing means for adding the price of the article selected by said user to said communication charge and calculating a sum of money charged to said user.

8. The online shopping apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:

confirmation receiving means connected to said communication means for receiving order confirmation information from the terminal of said online shopping dealer; and

confirmation sending means connected to said communication means for sending said order confirmation information to said user's terminal.

9. The online shopping apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:

shipping agent communication means for communication with a terminal of a shipping agent delivering the article to the user,

5 said user information being information for specifying said retrieved user's name and destination, and expressing said user's name and destination in the form unrecognizable by said online shopping dealer and said shipping agent,

said terminal of the online shopping dealer sending said article information and said user information to said terminal of the shipping agent, said terminal of the shipping agent sending user inquiry information including said user information to said online shopping apparatus for inquiring said retrieved user's name and destination; and

user information sending means connected to said shipping agent

15 communication means for sending the data indicating the name of the user and specified by said user information as well as the data indicating the destination and specified by said user information to said terminal of the shipping agent in response to the reception of said user inquiry information.

10. The online shopping apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising:

schedule receiving means connected to said shipping agent
communication means for receiving delivery schedule information from said
5 terminal of the shipping agent; and

schedule sending means connected to said communication means for
sending said delivery schedule information to said user's terminal.

11. An online shopping method for use by an online shopping
apparatus performing communication between a user's terminal and a
terminal of an online shopping dealer, wherein said user's terminal stores
unrewritable identification information for identifying the user's terminal
5 itself, said user's terminal reads out said identification information, and
sends said identification information and article information representing
an article selected for purchase to said online shopping apparatus when a
user enters the article information,

said online shopping method comprising the steps of:
10 preparing in advance said identification information, data
representing a user's name and corresponding to said identification
information, and data representing a destination designated by said user
and corresponding to said identification information;
receiving said article information and said identification information
15 from said user's terminal;
retrieving said data stored corresponding to said received
identification information;
preparing user information for specifying said user's name and
destination based on said retrieved data; and
20 sending said article information and said prepared user information

to the terminal of said online shopping dealer.

12. The online shopping apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

obtaining by calculation a charge of communication to said user's terminal;

5 preparing data representing prices of said articles corresponding to the articles; and

calculating a sum of money charged to said user by adding the price of the article selected by said user to said communication charge.

13. The online shopping method according to claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

receiving order confirmation information from the terminal of said online shopping dealer; and

5 sending said order confirmation information to said user's terminal.

14. The online shopping method according to claim 11, wherein said online shopping apparatus further makes a communication with a terminal of a shipping agent delivering the article to the user,

5 said user information is information for specifying said retrieved user's name and destination, and expressing said user's name and destination in the form unrecognizable by said online shopping dealer and said shipping agent,

10 said terminal of the online shopping dealer sends said article information and said user information to said terminal of the shipping agent, said terminal of the shipping agent sends user inquiry information including said user information to said online shopping apparatus for inquiring said retrieved user's name and destination; and

15 said online shopping method further comprises the step of sending the data indicating the name of the user and specified by said user information as well as the data indicating the destination and specified by said user information to said terminal of the shipping agent in response to

the reception of said user inquiry information.

15. The online shopping method according to claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

receiving delivery schedule information from said terminal of the shipping agent; and

5 sending said delivery schedule information to said user's terminal.

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